

REMARKS

This Preliminary Amendment is being submitted to correct a claim numbering error in the original application, where two claims numbered as 24 were mistakenly filed in the application. As shown above, the second claim 24 has been renumbered to claim 25, and former claims 25 through 38 have been renumbered as well as claims 26-39. A marked-up version as well as the clean version of the claims correction is being presented herewith. There is no additional fee required, since applicant has previously submitted fees to cover 39 total claims (with 8 independent claims). The dependencies in the claims have also been amended. With this Preliminary Amendment, claims 1-39 are now pending in the present application. Examination and allowance of all claims is respectfully requested.

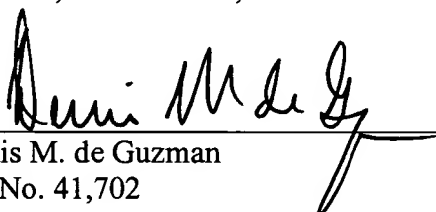
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Please charge our Deposit Account No. 02-2666 for any additional fee due in this matter.

Respectfully submitted,

BLAKELY, SOKOLOFF, TAYLOR and ZAFMAN

Dated: 11/01/01

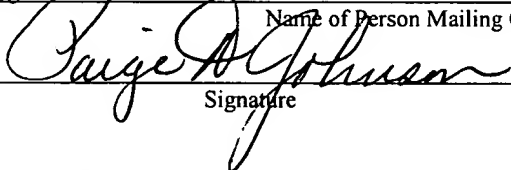
  
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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

The second claim 24 is renumbered to claim 25 as shown below, and the subsequent claims are also amended to reflect the renumbering of claims.

[24] 25. (Amended) An update method to provide configuration information related to user object of a multimedia communication network system having a plurality of access devices, the configuration information including values for a plurality of configuration parameters, at least one of the configuration parameters being related to a favorites setting, the method comprising:

receiving a portion of the configuration information including the favorites setting via an access device of the plurality of access devices;

assigning a ticket number to the received portion of the configuration information;

storing the ticket number in a revision history; and

providing the ticket number to the access device.

[25] 26. (Amended) The update method of claim [24] 25, further comprising:

setting a bit in a bit vector, the bit vector having a plurality of bits each being associated to a corresponding configuration parameter of the user object, wherein the set bit indicates the configuration parameter associated with the received configuration information and is related to the favorites setting; and

providing the bit vector to the access device.

[26] 27. (Amended) The update method of claim [25] 26, further comprising providing the portion of the configuration information to a second access device of the plurality of access devices.

[27] 28. (Amended) An article of manufacture, comprising:

a machine-readable medium for use in a multimedia communication network system having a plurality of access devices, the configuration information including values for a plurality of configuration parameters, at least one of the configuration parameters being related to a favorites setting, the machine-readable medium having instructions stored thereon to:

receive a portion of the configuration information including the favorites setting via an access device of the plurality of access devices;

assign a ticket number to the received portion of the configuration information;

store the ticket number in a revision history; and

provide the ticket number to the access device.

[28] 29. (Amended) The article of manufacture of claim [27] 28 wherein the machine-readable medium further includes instructions stored thereon to:

set a bit in a bit vector, the bit vector having a plurality of bits each being associated to a corresponding configuration parameter of the user object, wherein the set bit indicates the configuration parameter associated with the received configuration information and is related to the favorites setting; and

provide the bit vector to the access device.

[29] 30. (Amended) The article of manufacture of claim [27] 28 wherein the machine-readable medium further includes instructions stored thereon to provide the portion of the configuration information to a second access device of the plurality of access devices.

[30] 31. (Amended) A method to provide configuration information for at least one user object to an access device in a multimedia communication network system having a server and a plurality of access devices, the access devices of the plurality of access devices being associated with one or more households, the method comprising:

receiving a signal at the server that an access device is being associated with a household in response to user activation of the access device when the access device is coupled to the multimedia communication network system;

sending from the server an indication of whether the access device is the household's first access device; and

sending from the server configuration information for at least one user object when the access device is not the first access device of the household, the configuration information sent from the server including a favorites setting present in at least one of the other access devices in the household.

[31] 32. (Amended) The method of claim [30] 31, further comprising:

receiving configuration information from the user, including another favorites setting, via the access device when the access device is the first access device of the household; and

providing to the server the configuration information received from the user.

[32] 33. (Amended) The method of claim [31] 32, further comprising sending from the server a ticket number corresponding to the configuration information provided to the server.

[33] 34. (Amended) An apparatus to coordinate settings to access content available via an interactive video casting system having a plurality of channels, the interactive video casting system having connectivity to a plurality of access devices and capable to provide the plurality of access devices with access to a communication network, the apparatus comprising:

a server located in the interactive video casting system and capable to communicate with each access device in the plurality of access devices via a communication protocol suitable to each access device,

wherein the server is capable to receive configuration information related to a user object from a user via one of access device of the plurality of access devices according to the communication protocol for that access device,

wherein the configuration information defines multimedia content that can be accessed via instantiation of the user object in the access device,

wherein the configuration information further defines at least one favorites setting for that access device,

wherein the at least one favorites setting includes an address associated with a location in the communication network where the content can be accessed by the access device or including a channel among the plurality of channels of the interactive video casting system,

wherein the server is capable to provide the configuration information received from the access device, including the favorites setting having the address or the channel, to another access device of the plurality of access devices without further activity from the user according to a communication protocol suitable to that access device.

[34] 35. (Amended) The apparatus of claim [33] 34 wherein, independent of a request from any one of the access devices, the server is capable to provide the revised configuration information including the revision to the favorites setting to the another access devices if such revised configuration information is received by the server.

[35] 36. (Amended) An apparatus to coordinate settings to access content available via an interactive video casting system having a plurality of channels, the interactive video casting system having connectivity to a plurality of access devices and capable to provide the plurality of access devices with access to a communication network, the apparatus comprising:

a server located in the interactive video casting system and capable to communicate with each access device in the plurality of access devices via a communication protocol suitable to each access device,

wherein the server is capable to receive configuration information related to a user object from a user via one of access device of the plurality of access devices according to the communication protocol for that access device,

wherein the configuration information defines multimedia content that can be accessed via instantiation of the user object in the access device,

wherein the configuration information further defines at least one favorites setting for that access device,

wherein the at least one favorites setting includes an address associated with a location in the communication network where the content can be accessed by the access

device or including a channel among the plurality of channels of the interactive video casting system,

wherein the server is capable to provide the configuration information received from the access device, including the favorites setting having the address or the channel, to another access device of the plurality of access devices without further activity from the user according to a communication protocol suitable to that access device, the server further being capable to:

assign a ticket number to a portion of the received configuration information;

store the ticket number in a revision history;

provide the ticket number to the access device that sent the configuration information;

set a bit in a bit vector, the bit vector having a plurality of bits each being associated to a corresponding configuration parameter of the user object, wherein the set bit indicates the configuration parameter associated with the received configuration information and is related to the favorites setting; and

provide the bit vector to the access device that sent the configuration information.

[36] 37. (Amended) The apparatus of claim [35] 36 wherein, independent of a request from any one of the access devices, the server is capable to provide the revised configuration information including the revision to the favorites setting to the another access devices if such revised configuration information is received by the server.

[37] 38. (Amended) An apparatus to provide access to content in a multimedia communication network system having a plurality of access devices, the method comprising:

a means for receiving configuration information related to a user object from a user via an access device of the plurality of access devices,

wherein the configuration information defines multimedia content that can be accessed by instantiating the user object in the access device,

wherein the configuration information further defines at least one favorites setting for that access device; and

a means for providing the received configuration information, including the favorites setting, to another access device of the plurality of access devices.

[38] 39. (Amended) A system to provide configuration information for at least one user object to an access device in a multimedia communication network having a server and a plurality of access devices, the access devices of the plurality of access devices being associated with one or more households, the system comprising:

a means for receiving a signal at the server that an access device is being associated with a household in response to user activation of the access device when the access device is coupled to the multimedia communication network;

a means for sending from the server an indication of whether the access device is the household's first access device; and

a means for sending from the server configuration information for at least one user object when the access device is not the first access device of the household, the



configuration information sent from the server including a favorites setting present in at least one of the other access devices in the household.